

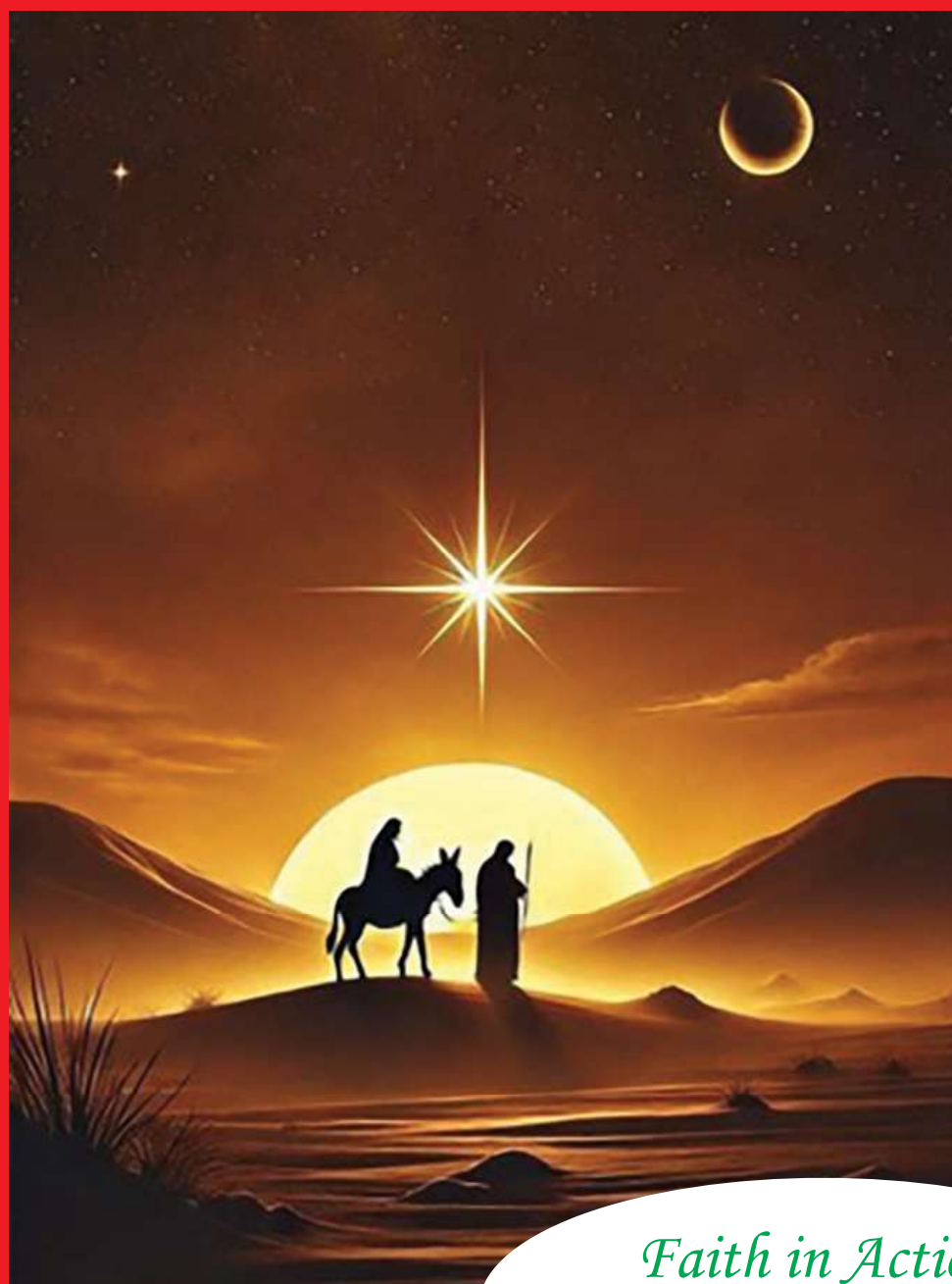


Catholic Women's League News



NOV/DEC 2025

Issue No: 168



*Faith in Action
Serving with Love*





NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025



CWL Newsletter Guidelines for Submissions

1. Please submit One Article per Diocese/Archdiocese
 - The article should be a diocesan report, reflecting activities and events across the diocese.
 - The article should provide an overview of key CWL activities within the diocese.
 - Focus on notable events, charitable works, spiritual initiatives, and significant achievements during the reporting period.
2. Formatting & Submission
 - Submit articles in Word format (.doc or .docx) - We cannot edit PDF's.
 - Use clear, concise language and avoid lengthy paragraphs.
 - Include high-quality photos with a caption.
3. News should not be older than 3 months
4. Deadline for Submission
 - Articles must be submitted by the 6 March 2026 for inclusion in the next Newsletter. Late submissions may not be included.
5. Where to Send
 - Email your article to cwlnatnews@gmail.com with the subject line: CWL Newsletter - [+ Diocese Name].

By following these guidelines, we can ensure a well structured and informative newsletter that truly reflects the work of the CWL across our dioceses.

Thank you for your cooperation!

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We all Have a Story

We all have a story
a tale to be told
of the joys we've experienced
and the hardships we've known.

Sometimes we wear them
on our sleeves for all to see
but often they're hidden
as deep as they can be.

So, let us be kind
for we never truly know
the struggles and the battles
that others undergo.

May empathy and compassion
be the guiding lights we share
and may we always remember
that each story deserves care.

For in our human journey
we all need love and grace
so, let us be kind to one another
and create a better place.

- Michelle Harverson



A Word from the National President



November greets us with sun, wind, and rain - signs that summer and Christmas are near. As many prepare for a well-deserved break, let us pause to reflect on the journey of Mary and Joseph. On the front cover of this magazine we reflect as we see Mary, weary, yet serene, riding a humble donkey through the vast desert - Joseph walking beside her, guiding them away from danger and into the unknown.

Alone, yet never abandoned, they carry within them the Light of the World. Like them, Catholic Women walk courageously through life's deserts - serving, nurturing, and believing even when the path is uncertain.

Each act of charity, each prayer, each moment of hope mirrors Mary's quiet strength. This Christmas, may we find comfort in knowing that, even in life's wilderness, God travels with us - guiding us towards His promise of peace.

May we know this joy at the end of 2025 as we reflect on the activities of each CWL Diocese. According to the reports it has been a very busy few months so enjoy the rest and hopefully we'll pour our creative juices into 2026.

Thank you for the meaningful articles submitted for our magazine, from the different diocese. It



is encouraging to see continued growth and the induction of so many new members. While reading though these articles take note of some new ideas that can be useful in your

branches. I suggest you involve new members at this time of the year when churches are being tidied and decorated and soon they'll be in the spirit of the CWL women working together. For 2026 consider joint projects with other parish organizations, and plan ahead for the Women's World Day of Prayer on the first Friday of March - perhaps even a mother-and-daughter event would be a good idea!

As Catholic Women devoted to charity, you embody this same spirit - bringing light and hope to others through humble service. May the joy of that first Christmas fill your hearts anew, inspiring you to continue sharing Christ's love with Charity, Work and Loyalty.

As we admire the "decorations" of Christmas, let us not lose sight of its true meaning. Amid shopping and busyness, take time to reflect on faith, hope, and gratitude.

To all our treasured CWL members thank you for your hard work, your giving hearts, and your faith in action.

May this Christmas bring you rest, joy, and renewed hope for the year ahead!

Kindest Regards

Sheila Thyse



The Heart of Christmas: A Season for Reawakening Love

By Fr Jerry Browne, National Chaplain

As another year draws to a close, we find ourselves once again on the threshold of Christmas. It comes with songs we know by heart, stories that never grow old, and a promise that renews the world's weary spirit. Beneath the commercial trimmings of lights, parties, and festive décor, however, beats a deeper rhythm - the heartbeat of God made flesh in the Child of Bethlehem.

This season is not merely about celebrating the birth of a child; it is about rediscovering the presence of Christ at the centre of our lives. The miracle of Christmas is that God chose to draw near, not in splendour or might, but in vulnerability. He came as an infant - fragile, dependent, and wrapped in the ordinary. That is the pattern of divine love: it breaks into human life through the humble, the poor, and the unexpected.

In a world that seems ever more hurried and restless, Christmas calls us to slow down and reflect. The birth of Jesus reminds us that love is not an abstract idea; it is a choice made visible through kindness, patience, and mercy. The shepherds found the Son of God not in a palace, but in a manger. They found joy where the world least expected it. So too, we may discover our greatest blessings hidden in simple gestures: a quiet visit to someone who feels forgotten, a word of encouragement to a weary heart, or a prayer offered for peace in troubled places.

The Catholic Women's League has always embodied this spirit of love in action. Through service, prayer, and fellowship, the League brings the light of Christ into the places where it is most needed - serving with humility, strengthening family life, uplifting those on the margins, and reminding the Church that compassion is always stronger than comfort.

As we approach Christmas, our mission becomes even more vital. There are families who will face an empty table this year, children who will wonder if anyone cares, and elderly neighbours who long for a voice to break their silence. In every act of generosity - a hamper shared, a visit made, a prayer whispered - Christ is born anew.

Christmas also reminds us that hope is not naive optimism but courageous faith. Mary and Joseph had no certainty about the road ahead. They simply trusted that God's promise was enough. Their "yes" opened the door to salvation. Our own "yes" - spoken in faith and lived through service - continues to open hearts to the same divine presence today.

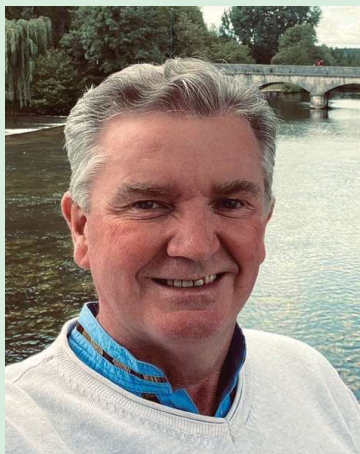
Perhaps this year, we can all make room for a little more silence, a little more gratitude, a little more wonder. The first Christmas was not filled with grandeur or noise; it was quiet, holy, and intimate. In that stillness, the Word became flesh. We too must find moments of stillness in the busyness of the festive season, to listen for the whisper of God who continues to speak in the depths of our hearts.

May this Christmas awaken in us the tenderness of Mary, the faith of Joseph, and the joy of the shepherds.

May Christ be born again - not only in our churches, but in our homes, our communities, and our hearts.

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." May that light shine through us this Christmas, bringing comfort, hope, and peace to all we meet.

A blessed and joyful Christmas to each of you, and may the love of the Christ Child fill your hearts and homes throughout the year ahead.





News from the Diocese



ARCHDIOCESE OF BLOEMFONTEIN

Loyalty Visit at Boickhuco Old Age Home

On the 19 July 2025 the Archdiocese of Bloemfontein Executive Committee Members paid their annual visit to Boickhuco. They were accompanied by different branches: All Saints, Sacred Heart, St Rose, Corpus Christ, Our Lady of Fatima and St Charles Lwanga Catholic Church



Team building

Team building which was conducted by Mr. Ramonate of Monate wa Phokeng was well attended by the Executive Committee and the Chaplain. We were reminded that we were elected by the CWL members who trust us to serve them loyally.



Annual Mojekelo (Fundraising)

All the Parishes in the Archdiocese of Bloemfontein supported the very successful Mojekelo, in aid of assisting Seminarians.



CWL Retreat - All Saints

On 9 September 2025, the Archdiocesan CWL retreat was held in preparation for the awarding of long service badges under the theme "Hope Never Disappoints." The event was especially meaningful as one member received her 20-year badge, reflecting the League's continued growth. Proceedings began with the Rosary and a warm welcome from Mme Letlula, President of All Saints CWL, followed by introductions, singing, and prayer. Guest speaker Mr. Ramonate from the Anglican Church encouraged members to persevere in faith, drawing on John 21:1-6 and Mark 5:25-30 to remind them that persistence and faith lead to blessing. Fr. Kenke

then led Benediction and Adoration, prompting reflection on personal and spiritual values. In the second session, he highlighted the unwavering hope of Mary, the CWL's patroness, reinforcing the retreat theme. The day closed with Mass and heartfelt thanks from Mme Mpho Ntema to all attendees, especially those who travelled from distant parishes.



Long Service Badge Ceremony

All Saints Catholic Church hosted the Mass on the occasion of awarding badges for long service to the CWL. We had 36 recipients of long service badges: 35 received their 10 year badges and 1 lady received her 20 year badge. About 200 CWL members attended this Mass.



Comments from participants:

I am delighted with receiving my 10 years badge despite there being many challenges along the way. I would like to thank the Almighty God for HIS divine protection. I am looking forward to my 20 year badge.
- Mookgo Letutla



That I'm making a difference in someone's life. Not only that, I found a sisterhood, a group of women who share the same passion as I do as per the scripture "blessed is the hand that gives" (Proverbs 22:9). My sisters in Christ have helped me grow spiritually, nurturing me in my faith. Thank you.

- Ntsietseng Raputsoane



News from the Diocese



Introduction of Newly Enrolled members

Fr Kenke welcomed the newly inducted ladies from different parishes. This year CWL gained 11 new members. They were accompanied by their Presidents.



Annual Renewals

All members who didn't get a chance to renew in their branches were also given a chance to renew their commitment to the CWL on this festive day.



Loyalty Visit at Christ the king

The Archdiocese saw the need to visit CTK. There the Executive assured the branch of their support in order to encourage the growth of the branch.

Annual General Meeting, Car Wash Chillas (Fundraising)

On 4 October 2025 the Annual General Meeting which 114 women attended was held at St's Peter and Paul. The was a joint Mass celebrated by Frs. Kenke and Ephraim. Both Priests placed emphasis on Peace, Harmony, Unity and Love in the league.

The AGM went well.

Different branches presented their reports and much was shared and learnt from these reports. The 2 new members on the Diocesan Committee are: Secretary (Ms Moletsane) and News Correspondent (Ms Finger)



Newly Launched Branch

A new branch was inducted at Modisa ya Molemo Zone 2 Thabanchu. A year ago this branch was inspired by the St Francis branch and one member was enrolled. The Archdiocesan committee were accompanied to the induction by a few different branches. Those branches shared non-perishable items on the day. The Mass was celebrated by Fr Leboga.



St Charles Lwanga - Botshabelo

ST CHARLES LWANGA ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH. (FATHER'S DAY)

It is normal, worldwide, that every year Father's day is celebrated in a special way and on the 29th June all the LADIES of St Charles Lwanga gathered for this celebration,

C.W.L. of the parish was part of the preparation for these celebrations. Fr Masike, the parish priest, opened the ceremony with a prayer. Indeed everyone enjoyed this successful celebrations.



Enrollments

St Charles, Lwanga, enrolled 2 new members

. They also blessed the Executive Committee.

At the very special Mass Father Masike encouraged the CWL members to show humility, love and respect to all whom they meet.



All Saints

On the 10th August 2025 we supplied our church with cleaning material.

Fr Kenke and the congregation appreciated the gifts.

Renewals

On the 17th of August we welcomed back Baleseng Tau to the league. Together we all renewed our vows.



Kriste Lesedi la Ditjhaba

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Archdiocese Committee who visited us during our Induction and Annual Renewal of Commitment. Lastly our gratitude extends to our Chaplain Fr T Kenke for an inspiring sermon.





News from the Diocese



St Rose of Lima

St. Rose of Lima parish celebrated the birthday of their parish priest, Fr. Thabo Mmolaoa. Catholic Women's League ladies together with other sodalities, as well as the entire St. Rose of Lima congregation spoilt Fr. Mmolaoa with gifts and showed him love during the celebration of the Mass.



Tswellang Special School is a school for learners with physical disabilities and it caters for learners from foundation phase through to senior phase. The school caters for learners outside Bloemfontein as well. The school accommodates for ninety nine (99) learners.

As part of Mandela Day outreach the Catholic Women's League women from St. Rose of Lima parish, went to help the hostel team with their cooking for the day. On 26 July 2025 the ladies made delicious hot dog rolls for learners. The day was concluded with ladies helping the Hostel Staff prepare vegetables for the following day.



In Mangaung, men often wait at street corners seeking daily work to feed their families. On National Women's Day, the CWL from St. Rose of Lima parish prepared and delivered lunch to over 50 of these men. Their act of kindness embodied Matthew 25:35-40 - serving Christ through compassion for "the least of these."



Mofmahadi Mamohau

Mofmahadi Mamohau welcomed 4 beautiful ladies to their CWL branch. Father Felix's homily encouraged the members to be humble, to love, to be charitable, work hard for the church and be loyal to the league. They were joined by St Peter and Paul and Emmause Branches. After Mass they had an exciting peaceful lunch.



23rd Anniversary Celebrations

The Ladies organized lunch for their Parish Priest Fr Felix Lekhemba who was celebrating his 23rd anniversary of being ordained a priest.



Renewals

This year, St. Rose of Lima CWL, was blessed with two new members named Me. Rakhosi and Me. Lesenyeho who joined the league earlier this year. On Sunday 03 August during the 08:30 mass, they were presented to the congregation of St. Rose of Lima, and blessed by the parish priest, Fr. Thabo Mmolaoa OMI.



One of the leagues members was admitted to hospital. Me Kele Mokgwetsi has served the league for over 18 years, and once held the position of president. The ladies visited her immediately after mass to wish her well. She was amazed at the CWL team's initiative, showing their care and taking time to visit her. She was very grateful for their concern.



St Anthony

One lady was enrolled and the rest of the ladies renewed their vows as CWL members.

Birthday Celebration: 28 June 2025

St Mark's CWL has a membership of 28 ladies, who are divided into 2 groups: those who are born from 1st January to 30 June and another group born between 1st July to 31 December. When we celebrate our birthdays the each group will make all the necessary arrangements and when we fundraise, we use the same groups. On the 28 June 2025 the first group held a birthday celebration which went very well.





News from the Diocese



Introducing new members

In August we inducted all the new members of the League.



Birthday celebration of Fr. Peter Ramakatsa

One of our duties is to take care of our Priest. On the 29 July it was our Parish Priest's birthday, and we presented him with a gas heater and "welcome" envelope.



Trip to Maria Mabasotho in Maseru

On the 16th and 17th of August, CWL was part of the church congregation who visited Maria Mabasotho Church in Maseru. The aim of the visit was to learn from them. Unfortunately they don't have a CWL branch but do have a CWO. They operate very like the CWL does and the small group works very hard to achieve their objectives.



St. Mark's CWL Retreat

1ST THEME: MARY MOTHER OF HOPE: HOW CAN WE STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH AND NOT FEED OUR FEAR

2nd THEME: UNITY AND PEACE - JOHN 17

Mary is widely regarded as a model of hope within Christian traditions. Her faith, particularly her acceptance of God's will during the Annunciation, and her steadfast presence at the crucifixion, exemplify hope in the face of adversity. She embodies hope for the Church and for individual believers, offering guidance and encouragement in trials and throughout history. Tumelo yamme Maria e ne e lematla.

Here's a more detailed look at why Mary serves as a model of hope:

- Faithful Obedience
- Hope in the Face of Suffering
- Hope for the Church
- Hope for the Future
- Hope for the Individual

2. Specific Actions:

- "Ho Bala Bible" (Reading the Bible)
- "Ho Phela Thapelong" (Living in Prayer)
- "Ho Ithuta hoTšepa Molimo" (Learning to Trust God)
- "Ho Mamele LitabatselMatlafatsang Tumelo" (Listening to Faith-Building Messages)



- "Ho EtsaMesebetsi e Molemo" (Doing Good Deeds)
- "Ho Batla Ts'ehetsoho Ba bang" (Seeking Support from Others)

5 SIMPLE WAYS TO STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH:

1. TRUST
2. PRAY
3. READ SCRIPTURES
4. LIVE THIS WORD
5. BE THE LIGHT



We are to be loving and caring towards each other. We are to be encouraging and build one another up. We should be joyful people, who don't spend our days complaining.

2nd THEME UNITY AND PEACE - JOHN 17

Bomme love each other - don't be afraid to tell each other their mistakes, Re e thuteng ho kopatshwarelo. It's not nice to see ladies not talking to each other while they are in the same sodality.

Re tshepe Modimo ka matla. We should always rely on Holy Spirit.

Have a place in your home where you go and pray and we should always read the bible and spend more time praying. Never start a prayer without an intention. Have a prayer partner. There should always be Unity amongst ourselves and we should iron out our differences if there are any.

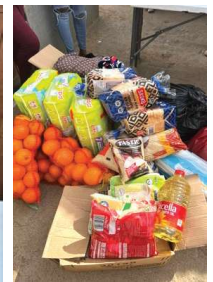
Allways show AGAPE - unconditional love. Agape flourishes where there is peace.



Kriste Bophelo ba Rona: Charity

On the 4th of August 2025 KBBR Women's League had the privilege of gathering to support those in need. We collected clothes, food and nappies to help bring comfort and hope to the children.

We are proud to be part of an effort that makes a real difference in people's lives.





News from the Diocese



Enrollment

We started by praying the Rosary before Mass. On the 24th August 2025 two (2) new members were introduced to the church. They are Mme Mdluli and Mme Khunou.

Two members were also enrolled as the full members of CWL - Mme Hou and Mme Lekoala. After the Mass we went out to celebrate with the new enrolled members.



Corpus Christi

On Sunday July 27th 2025, Corpus Christi Catholic Women's League celebrated the end of their annual Soup Kitchen project.. The newly appointed EXCO (2025-2027) took on this project as their first task and ran with it.



On Sunday the 17th August 2025 the feast of the Assumption of our Holy Mother Mary was also the 44th anniversary of priesthood for the parish priest Father Rakaki. Father Rakaki was very grateful for his gifts and said he appreciates being given his flowers " while he can still smell them!"

Emmause: CWL members visited

We donated medication to Siyathokoza which is a non-profit organization in Botshabelo. They accommodate orphans and some of the community. CWL visited the Old Age Home in Botshabelo Section B to gift them toiletries and other goods.

CWL donated a school uniform to a boy whose family members have passed away in a fire that destroyed their home.

CWL also donated linen to the Parish Priest at Emmaus. The CWL Emmaus branch invited the following parishes: St Charles, St Peter and Paul, Mamohau to a Retreat held by Fr. Phakisi.

We celebrated the birthdays of our two priests, Fr Mohlamme and Fr Phakisi and we spoil them with an envelope each. We are so grateful to have monthly meetings where we are given great encouragement from the gospel of that day.



CAPE TOWN

Kriste Bophelo ba Rona: Charity

The AGM of the Catholic Women's League of the Archdiocese of Cape Town was held at St Michael's in Rondebosch on 28th June.

A huge thank you to Rondebosch branch for hosting the meeting. Branch reports were followed by a 'bring and share' lunch. The ladies enjoyed the camaraderie of being together.

The following ladies received long service awards:

10 Year Badge - Joyce Davids, Vanessa Africa, Regina Antonels and Veronica Martin all from Belhar.

20 Year Badge - Elize Bantam, Magdalene Schoemann from Belhar. Nonturhuzelo Tsolekile and Nomhikie Oliphant from Langa.

50 Year Badge - Sarah Exsteen from Steenberg.

New Enrolments - Astrid Mudambo and Bisilia Mushoriwa from Macassar; Carolyn Savage from Table View PM; Phumla Siyephu, Nonzwakazi Xakeka from Khayelitsha; Connie Sebastiano from Rondebosch; Tania Easton from Parow; Dalene Cupido from Elsie's River; Angela Arendse from Wynberg and Nozipho Njisana from Langa.

Congratulations to all the recipients of Long Service awards and welcome to all our new members. May God bless you in your service to the CWL.





News from the Diocese



The CWL Diocesan team had a fundraising High Tea on 19 July at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church hall in Bergvliet. The Best Dressed Table was won by Wynberg for their "Mad Hatters Tea Party" décor. A raffle was held and the winner was Norma Arendse from Wynberg branch. The Best Dressed lady was won by the Parow branch. Entertainment was provided by Captain Cyril Dicks who had the ladies clapping, singing along and literally dancing in the aisles. A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon was had by all.



Bothasig

After hearing about a robbery that occurred at the Lilly Rose Community Farm, and that they were no longer in a position to purchase extra blankets and socks for their elderly pensioners, CWL Bothasig ladies made a plan to see what we could donate. 174 Items were packaged and delivered within a week to the farm and distributed among the more than 100 inhabitants. We will definitely be supporting this worthy cause in the future.



Our Diocesan Chaplain, Reverend Father Nkululeko, celebrated his birthday in August. We thank him for his faithful service as our Chaplain. His spiritual guidance, compassion, and unwavering commitment to our mission has been a true blessing. We pray that this year brings him renewed joy, good health, and abundant blessings.

CWL Cape Town is delighted to share the joyful news that 12 new members were officially enrolled at our newly established branch in Paarl on Sunday, 21 September.

We welcome them with open hearts and pray that they may be richly blessed in the wonderful work they will do in the service of God, the Church, and the community. Paarl branch were delighted that the CWL Executive attended, as well as a group of ladies from the Khayelitsha branch.



Atlantis

The ladies from CWL Atlantis renewed their vows in October. They also had the privilege of enrolling a new member, Donita Liedeman. May she be blessed in her service to the Catholic Women's League.



Happy 80th Birthday to Merrill from CWL, Bothasig

Merrill has been a dedicated member of the CWL in Bothasig for more than 40 years, serving in many roles on the Committee during that time. We wish you many more years of health, happiness, and joyful celebrations.

The Ladies of the CWL Bothasig, renewed their commitment, at the 10am Feast of the Assumption Mass on 17 August.

Congratulations to their two new members, who were enrolled: Glenda Bianchi and Denesia Langenhoven.

Welcome and may you continue to serve in our wonderful organisation for many years to come.



The CWL in Bothasig, provided the tea and coffee after Mass at a 'bring and share' birthday party for Father Baiju's on September 6.

The food tables were laden with delicious foods brought by parishioners. A wonderful social celebration was enjoyed with many parishioners from Grassy Park, attending too.





News from the Diocese



Bishop Lavis

The Parish Priest of Bishop Lavis, Fr Alfredo van der Schyff, celebrated the 6th anniversary of his Priestly Ordination on Sunday 10 August 2025. Ursula Pied, Chairperson of the branch, delivered a speech on behalf of the CWL at the Mass. His mother also received a bunch of flowers as a token of appreciation.



On Sunday August 10th 2025 the CWL ladies celebrated Father Alfredo's 5th year of Ordination with a special mass celebrated by Father Craig. A few of our ladies presented Father Alfredo with a gift as a small token of appreciation and also thanked him for his services to Saint Martin De Porres Catholic Church, Lavis Town. The ladies of Lavis Town also renewed their commitment to CWL at a very special Mass.

Elsies River

The ladies of CWL Elsie's River renewed their commitment to CWL on the Feast of the Assumption at St Claire's.



Goodwood

Goodwood CWL served hot soup and buttered bread to the homeless for lunch on Thursday 26 June.



Khayelitsha

In the quiet corners around Old Faure Road and Spine Road, many hardworking men gather each day, hoping for a chance to provide for their families.

On Saturday, 16 August 2025, the CWL Khayelitsha branch from St Matthias Catholic Church, Mfuleni, shared light refreshments and heartfelt prayers with these labourers; remembering them through the intercession of St Joseph, patron saint of workers. "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters." - Colossians 3:23
A small act of kindness, offered with great love.



The ladies of CWL Khayelitsha Branch had the pleasure of spending a beautiful Holy Communion Day on Saturday, 16 August 2025, hosted by Fr. Gabriel Msoka AJ at St Mary's Catholic Church, Nyanga - as part of our monthly spiritual obligation within the CWL Khayelitsha branch.

Fr. Gabriel, who also serves as Parish Priest to some of our members from Our Lady Queen of Africa and St Josephine Bakhita parishes, welcomed us. After our Communion and Adoration Hour, we enjoyed a shared tea and heartfelt conversation: moments that truly remind us of the unity and grace within our faith community.



On the blessed Feast of the Assumption of Mary, we continued to witness God's abundant grace and blessings upon our Annual Renewal of Commitment as the Khayelitsha Branch. Under the spiritual guidance of our Priest Fr Ndodana Tshuma OMI, and our President Ms Zoleka Tokwe, we joyfully welcomed and enrolled two new members: Ms Nonzwakazi Xakeka and Mrs Phumla Siyephu.

May our Blessed Mother continue to intercede for us as we grow in faith, unity, and service.



On the 21st of September, our Khayelitsha Branch joyfully answered the call to support our sisters in Christ as the New Paarl Branch was officially instated. It was a truly spirit-filled occasion where Fr Emmanuel Maduka SDV reignited in us the beauty of the journey we have chosen with Christ. He remind us that our commitment to this blessed organisation is a profound act of stewardship and service, perfectly echoing the message in the day's reading.





News from the Diocese



Kuilsriver

Kuilsriver Branch has had a busy few months. St. Ninians are a force to be reckoned with!

In May they hosted a Food Fair.

On 18 th July some of their ladies handed out food to residents in Kalkfontein in aid of Mandela Day.

On the 10th August the ladies celebrated Commitment Sunday and Father Joseph, their parish priest, celebrated his 6th year since being ordained.

On 20th August the ladies were invited to St. Catherine's for a women's month Praise and Worship day. Ideas and projects were exchanged and new relationships built.

On 6th September their priest, Father Joseph, celebrated his birthday.

On the 18th September, CWL St Ninians celebrated 15 years of existence. They received a blessing from Father Joseph and afterwards went for brunch and coffee.



On 9th August they held a fundraiser in the form of a High Tea. They had an entertaining afternoon with lots of fun and laughter.



On Sunday, 28 September, St. Ninians celebrate their feast day at the Kuilsriver Rugby Field.

The CWL ladies adopted two seminarians and gifted them each with a bag of essentials. The day was very successful. The

cherry on top was a pop in visit from Charmaine a CWL member from the Retreat branch and as always she played a role in helping the injured seminarian.



Langa

On the 27th July, CWL in Langa and the Parishioners celebrated the Birthday and the 24th anniversary of their Parish Priest Fr Geoffrey Mawa.



Macassar

CWL Macassar held a blessed Charismatic Conference in August. Fr Pierre Goldie (who has been a priest for 28 years) and Deacon Allen Peterson, who has been deacon for 17 years, decided on the spur of the moment, to enjoy a nice cup of tea to celebrate the occasions .



CWL Macassar celebrated their annual recommitment during Mass on the Feast of the Assumption. Fr David de Freitas officiated, assisted by Deacon Allen. Tea was served in the hall after Mass.



Paarl

The newly formed CWL Paarl had a breakfast bun fundraiser on 12 October at St Charles parish in Paarl. Everyone enjoyed the delicious fare.



Parow

CWL Parow had a Beanie Drive. Ladies are seen sorting beanies for distribution to Mowbray Maternity home, Friends of Khayelisha & Cheshire Homes.



Plumstead

CWL Plumstead held a sanitary pad drive for Mandela Day. Over 200 pkts were donated. They will be shared between 3 primary schools. In the picture is the donation to Rosmead Central Primary, gratefully accepted by the school secretary.

CWL Plumstead held a sanitary pad drive for Mandela Day. Over 200 pkts were donated. They will be shared between 3 primary schools. In the picture is the donation to Rosmead Central Primary, gratefully accepted by the school secretary.



Plumstead enrolled 2 new members



News from the Diocese



Retreat

On the 26 July 2025 Retreat CWL (Madelena Day outreach) ladies made two big pots of soup and sandwiches. They met James who was in a wheelchair. He had such a big heart and said "no thanks" to a sandwich as he already had one and said they should "give it to someone else". The ladies told him to keep it for later. What a blessed morning they had.



Tableview

On 16TH August, the ladies of both CWL Table View groups got together with their priests, Fr Carlo (officiating) and Fr Gavin and joined together in faith and fellowship for a very special occasion – the tree planting ceremony requested by the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO).

Fr Carlo chose two olive trees. The tree is a symbol of growth, hope, and stewardship of creation, reminding us of our responsibility to care for our common home as Pope Francis called us to do in Laudato Si'. The symbol of the olive tree features prominently in the Bible, which Fr Carlo highlighted in his dedication.

May these trees stand as a lasting sign of unity in our parish, rooted in Christ and reaching out in love to future generations.



Rocklands

The ladies of the CWL Rocklands renewed their Commitment on Sunday 17 August at the 8am Mass.



Rondebosch

Two members of the CWL Rondebosch are now Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist - Toni Ludwig and Josee Uwamwiza seen with their Spiritual Chaplain Rev Tony van Vuuren.

Members of the CWL Rondebosch after Mass at which they renewed their commitment to the League had ended their Novena.



The ladies from CWL Table View had their recommitment at the Feast of the Assumption Mass on Saturday evening, 16 August. A tea was held in the hall afterwards.



Rondebosch CWL ladies manned the dessert stall at the parish International Food Fair on 26th September. The treats look delicious!



The CWL Table View 'morning group' donated R3300 worth of dry ingredients to the TLC group, situated behind the TV Police Station. They provide daily meals to the homeless in the area. They felt very blessed to support this very worthwhile organization.



News from the Diocese



Table View evening group was blessed with a generous donation from Tamryn Fritz and Rachel Carter of Rallim, who spearheaded a school-wide collection of baby toiletries and clothing. These items were gifted to underprivileged mothers at the Du Noon Clinic and Maternity Unit.

Representing our group, Virginia Adriaans (Morning Group President), Jen Henrick (Secretary), and Angela Caretoni (Branch Member) met with the Facility's Heads of Department and the dedicated maternity staff. During our visit, we shared our deep appreciation for the exceptional service they provide to the community and for maintaining such a well-run facility.



Immaculate Conception Parish - Pinetown

June - Our jumble sale which took place over 2 days in June was well supported by the parishioners and the community. A generous amount was made.

July - 1st of July we visited the Sisters of Charity in Shallcross and we donated groceries, cleaning materials, bags of clothing etc.

5th of July we had a July handicap lucky draw fund raiser which was won by Pat Blackbeard.

13th of July the CWL served tea and biscuits to the parishioners in appreciation of their support.

5th September the CWL members celebrated the feast day of Mother Theresa with the Sisters of Charity in Shallcross.

28th of September we hosted a "sip and paint" event which was a huge success. Many showcased their skill of painting.

5th of October a Cuppa for Cansa was held. Donations made on the day will go to the children's cancer association.



Vredenburg

CWL Vredenburg ladies held their recommitment at Mass in August. Bishop Emeritus Francisco de Gouveia officiated in the absence of Parish Priest, Fr Jan, who is on leave. The ladies felt very blessed at this very meaningful occasion.



CWL ladies with their canvasses at the "sip and paint" event

Wynberg

CWL Wynberg had an amazing afternoon on 9th October hosting their 'Priesthood Sunday' lunch.



Holy Trinity Parish - Musgrave

On 29 June, our League had the joy of providing tea for a bring-and-share celebration in honour of Sr. Pauline Mowei's Silver Jubilee. Sr. Pauline a Daughter of St. Paul, was a guest speaker at one of our meetings last year, where she so generously shared about her vocation and the unique mission of her congregation.

At our meeting on 5 July, we were delighted to welcome Br. Khayelihle Nene, a seminarian currently studying at St John Vianney Seminary in Pretoria. He shared insights into the seminary's formation programme. Br. Khaya expressed his gratitude to CWL members for their continued support and the thoughtful gifts he received.

In August members visited the Sisters of Charity in Shallcross where we donated much-needed supplies of cleaning and washing detergents as well as diapers. We were warmly welcomed and we were given a tour of the Immaculate facilities. It was a truly humbling experience to witness the tireless service of the Sisters of Charity.

On 17 August, we proudly celebrated a remarkable milestone!, Rosalie Donachie's 60 years of dedicated service in the CWL and the induction of three new members. After Mass a celebratory tea was held in the hall for Rosalie and the new members.

The last few months have also seen CWL in partnership with other Ministries

at Holy Trinity plus taking an active role in supporting our Parish's fundraising efforts for the maintenance to our church roof. Our CWL members are truly living out the League's motto of "Charity, Work, Loyalty"



2025 Inducted Members: F. Nkwanyhana, M. Frank, M. Grewe with L. Canter and R. Donachie

DURBAN



The Diocese of Durban hosted a very successful High Tea to raise funds for the caring fund. Despite the poor weather all enjoyed the fund raiser.

The Diocese assisted an unemployed mother of 4 children from Newlands East with groceries and essential goods. Continuous monitoring of the lady's situation will be done and the Diocese encouraged branches to assist.



News from the Diocese



Kwakristo Umsindisi - KwaMashu

During the month of August KwaKristo uMsindisi branch enjoyed and celebrated some members receiving badges of 10 years, 20 years and 30 years of service to the CWL.

KwaKristo uMsindisi CWL ladies also renovated the church Sacristy by having new floor tiles laid.



The Parish inducted one member and service badges were awarded to two members. One lady was awarded her 10 year badge while the other received her 20 year badge.



St. Mary's Parish - Pietermaritzburg

CWL ladies joined other charity groups in Pietermaritzburg on World Day of the Homeless to provide a substantial meal and lots of treats for the poorest in our city. Our car park proved to be an ideal spot for tables and chairs where they could enjoy their time both peacefully and with dignity in lovely shade.



St. Clement Parish - Clermont

The CWL Clermont Branch joyfully celebrated the Service Badge Awards on 17 August 2025. The event honoured long-serving members of 20 Years of Service and 25 Years of Service to the CWL.

We extend heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to these devoted members, may their steadfast dedication continue to inspire us all.



St. Vincent Parish - Pelham

Pelham CWL renovated the Grotto in their Parish. Both new tiling was done and a new statue of Mother Mary was donated.



Our Lady of Fatima Parish - Durban North

The Durban North CWL held a "High Tea in Paris" event which was well supported by members and parishioners.





News from the Diocese



ESHOWE

Eshowe

Our annual Diocesan CWL retreat and AGM was held in 2025 at Little Flower Centre, Eshowe. Our theme of the day was "Ephesians 6v11- Put on the whole arm of God that you may be able to stand against the scheme of the devil". Our retreat master was Fr M. Mabaso and our guest speaker was Fr S. Sthathu.

Our retreat master encouraged us to use God's weapons for spiritual growth as C.W.L. members. We must keep our lights burning so as to fight against devil's will. Our guest speaker, Fr. S Sithathu gave us advice on how to take care of our children so as to control their misbehaviour even as they grow older. The love of children must build them to be responsible adults.

Fr A.J. Mancacua our Diocesan Chaplain. Our chaplain thanked both priests for their encouraging words that they shared with us. He encouraged us to work as a team so as to promote God's work in "Charity, Work and Loyalty"



St Martin De Porres - Esikhawini

The annual 2025 retreat took place at their parish with other C.W.L members from St Benedict Parish, St Lwanga Ngwelezane Parish, St Paul's Parish and St Patrick's Parish.

The retreat master was Fr. Mnguni who encouraged us to be filled with God's words and imitate Him within the church, at work, at home and even within our community.

Two new members were enrolled and the Diocesan President was given a basket of goodies thanking her for attending the retreat.



St Lwanga - Ngwelezane

At their retreat day they had a wonderful Mass at which they gave their Priest Fr. T. Buthelezi a new chasuble as a gift and 10 altar servers' robes. The CWL ladies also visited a needy family and donated some groceries as part of their charitable work.

Two new members were also enrolled on at the retreat.



St Benedict - Eshowe Parish

St. Benedict C.W.L. did wonderful charity work by donating groceries to 14 needy families.



Makhosini Deanery - Eshowe Diocese

Some delegates from Makhosini Deanery visited Nquthu Parish for advice because there is no CWL in that parish. The local branch also donated groceries to the priest. Many pieces of clothing and blankets were distributed to church members.



Diocese of Eshowe Executive

Together with Empangeni Deanery members of the executive visited Mbongolwane Church to inform them of the CWL. They also donated groceries to the priest.



KEIMOES-UPINGTON BISDOM

Boesmanland - Pella

Pella het vir die Jubilee Jaar vir die Vormsel Kandidate bande gemaak en borduur deur Sr. Tersa Beukes met behulp van Sr. Marie Josefa. Die tak het ook ses (6) nuwe lede by gekry.



Pella se nuwe lede is Sr. Uzane Simboya, Sr. Rewouna (Koekie) Simboya, Sr. Rientjies is 'n ou lid, Sr. Sherell Secondt, Sr. Esna Simboya, Sr. Magrieta Waterboer en Sr. Mary Fienies. Afwesig is Sr. Sue-Allen Vos.

Op 7 September het die Boesmanlandstreek-bestuur Onseepkans besoek waar 2 susters van Pella en al die susters van Pofadder die besoek saam met die Streekbestuur meegemaak het. Die ontvangs van Onseepkans was baie goed en susters is baie positief. Die dames van Onseepkans sien uit vir die stigting van hulle nuwe tak.





News from the Diocese



Aggeneys

Aggeneys het 'n uitreiking gehad na kinders. Sr. Hendrikse het minderbevooregte kinders geïdentifiseer. Elke suster het 'n kind gekry vir wie hulle geskenk pakkies gekoop het. Op 09 Augustus is dit by Sr. Hendriks se huis uitgedeel waar hulle ook lekkernye ontvang het. Dit was 'n vreugdevolle oomblik om die dankbaarheid op die kinder gesiggies te sien. Die uitdaging het gelei dat daar nog moedertjies gekom het, vir wie nie begroot was nie. Dit het ons laat bly en hoe groot die nood werklik is.



Pofadder

Op 30 Junie het die tak 'n dans gehou ter fondsinsameling vir Priesteropleiding. Die vrouebond het Grotto geïnisieër. Gemeente is betrek en Grotto is in Augustus voltooi. Vir hul Priester se verjaarsdag het die vroue 'n peuselmanjie en 'n finansiële bydrae vir ons Priester gegee. Noveen van Maria Ten Hemel Opneming is gebid en op 14 Augustus is oorweging gehou. Pofadder tak het op 17 Augustus hul geloftes hernu. Geloftes was deur alle takke in die Boesmanlandstreek hernu.



Pofadder tak het op 17 Augustus hul geloftes hernu

Oranjeriviertreek



Friersdale en Keimoes het oorweging gehad saam met Vader Alex Beukes



Namakwaland: Okiep tak hernu geloftes met Vader Gerald

KIMBERLEY

Kimberley

To uplift our spirits and strengthen our faith, the Diocese held its annual retreat at St Joseph Centre in Mafikeng from 11th to 13th July 2025. This was led by our Diocesan Chaplain, Rev. Fr Medupe Motshwari, under the theme "BACK TO MY ROOTS" (Col 2:7).

Rev. Tsholo Motlonye and Br Thapelo assisted with the Penitential service. The retreat was well attended by 84 ladies who came from Kuruman, Taung, Kimberley and Mahikeng Deaneries.

We strive to live our Motto - Charity, Work and Loyalty and putting our Faith into action as we serve our people with Love. The Mahikeng Deanery is serviced by nine Priests, including Deacons at different parishes. They were each showered with gifts, ranging from blankets to groceries and cleaning materials. Rev. Fr Motlonye and Br Thapelo were also given tokens of appreciation for assisting Rev. Fr. Motshwari with the retreat programme.



CWL Ladies attended the annual Spiritual Retreat

St Mary's

The newly elected executive committee received special blessings from Fr Orakwe during the 20th July 2025 Mass which was also dedicated to the CWL members of the St Mary's branch.

Chairperson	- Didimalang Pemba
Deputy Chairperson	- Nomama Khantsi
Treasurer	- Masego Mpama
Secretary	- Kehilwe Majele
Deputy Secretary	- Bumni Obioha
News correspondence	- Masego Motsoatsoa



St. Mary's Cathedral ladies at the Rosary Rally in Kimberley

When you arise in the morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive - to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to love.

- Marcus Aurelius



News from the Diocese



JOHANNESBURG

Enrolments and Anniversaries

On the 23rd of August 2025, Blessed Gerald parish had enrolments and anniversaries. Two new members were enrolled, while some members received their 10 and 20 year anniversary badges. Fr Kiffle, the Vaal Region chaplain, was the main celebrant.



Winning Fete Cushion

On the 6th of September St Benedict the Black parish entered the cushion competition for the 2025 FETE. Their cushion came in second place and that left the whole deanery super excited and proud that one of their cushions made it to the top three.



Women's Day High Tea - West Rand Region

West Rand Region hosted a high tea event on the 09 August 2025; branches prepared beautiful tables that were shared with non-members that were invited. The event was a success and the ladies looked elegant.



Enrolments and Anniversaries

The branch of St Cosmas and Damian (Cosmo city) celebrated the enrolment of three new members on the 31st of August 2025, while Our Lady Queen of Peace joyfully celebrated some anniversaries.



Retreat

The CWL Ladies of Our Lady of Loreto attended a power-filled, spirit nourishing and mind equipping CWL retreat, which was led by Deacon Chris.



Women's Day Celebrations

Many of the branches celebrated Women's Day which included the ladies from St Francis of Assisi, Reiger Park celebrating with a mouth-watering braai, and St Lambert and St Nicholas branches, coming together to celebrate at St Martin De Porres, Geluksdal, in their beautifully themed, black and navy attire.



Enrolments and Anniversaries

Holy Family Catholic Church, Spruitview, and St Joseph, celebrated 30 year anniversaries, with Holy Family Parish also enrolling a new member.

Annual morning of recollection

The ladies of the Johannesburg Region gathered at the tranquil setting of Schoenstatt in Bedfordview, to enjoy a retreat led by Retreat Master Fr Thabo Mothiba, Chaplain and Teacher at St Benedicts College for boys.

The theme of the day was "In the Beginning" with a focus on the scripture reading from Genesis 1:1-31. Two sessions were held, and the day concluded with an inspirational Mass.



Enrolment

Our Lady of the Wayside in Maryvale welcomed a new member in August.





News from the Diocese



Celebrating our Nuns - South West Region

On the 16th of August 2025, Our Lady of Mercy hosted a lunch celebrating the Catholic nuns from different orders. The event was attended by over 190 guests and the special guests were showered with gifts.



Enrolments and Anniversaries

The month of October was a joyful and proud one as the South West Region of the Johannesburg Diocese that celebrated enrolments and anniversaries (10, 20, 25, 30, and 40 years) across 13 branches. These branches are Good Shepherd, St Joseph, St Martin De Porres, St Michael, St Pius, St Theresa, St Francis de Sales, St Margaret, St Peter Claver, Holy Spirit, Our Lady of Fatima, St Angela, and Regina Mundi.



Jesuit priests lead discussion on Gaza

Father David and Father Russell with Sophie De Bruyn, Nozipho Bardill and Brenda Watson.

Over 200 people packed into St Martin de Porres Catholic Church Hall in Craighall Park on 12 October to attend a symposium entitled 'Gaza: Witnessing the Horror'.

The Sophia & Henry De Bruyn Legacy Foundation hosted a symposium on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, featuring Jerusalem-based Jesuit priest Father David Neuhaus SJ, moderated by Father Russell Pollitt SJ. Father Neuhaus, born into a South African-German Jewish family, criticised the ceasefire deal for excluding Palestinians and ignoring the West Bank. He called for justice, peace, equality, and a single democratic, secular state in Palestine-Israel. Ms De Bruyn, a St Martin de Porres parishioner and 1956 Women's March veteran, thanked attendees and urged awareness of Gaza's plight.



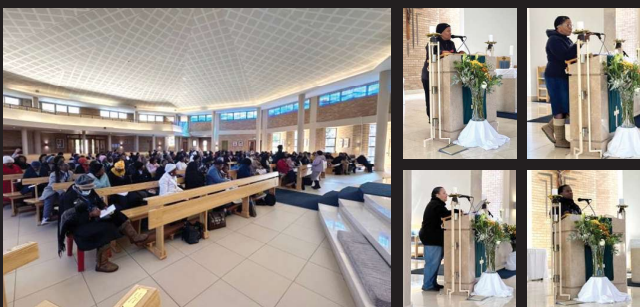
Rainbow Fiesta Fete

On the 6th of September, the Johannesburg Diocese came together at St Dominic's Catholic School in Boksburg to celebrate the much anticipated 2025 Fete. The theme of the year was Rainbow Fiesta. There were different stalls selling a variety of foods and there were fun activities for all. Lots of prizes were also won in competitions and raffles.



General News - Diocesan Workshop

The Diocesan Workshop was held on the 26th of July at Our Lady of Lourdes in Rivonia. The aim of the workshop was to cover various questions asked in the previous workshop and to impart CWL related knowledge.



Diocesan Spiritual Growth Retreat

The diocese hosted a Spiritual Growth Retreat on the 23rd of August at the Church of the Resurrection in Bryanston. The retreat was presented by Fr (Dr) Michael Seheri.



Fun Share Relay 2025 Cheque Handover

In collaboration with CWL Pretoria and the Sodality of the Immaculate Conception (Kemolo), the CWL of Johannesburg Diocese, they chose Mphathose Community Development and Poverty Alleviation Project for Orphaned and Vulnerable Children as their charity for the Fun Share Relay. The cheque handover was done on the 13th of September, with members of Radio Veritas, CWL, and Kemolo present.





News from the Diocese



Diocesan AGM

On the 26th of October, members of the Johannesburg Diocese gathered at the Cathedral of Christ the King for the 93rd Annual General Meeting.



Namakwaland: Okiep tak hernu geloftes met Vader Gerald



St Martin de Porres

Father Peter Knox SJ visited St Martin de Porres parish on 31 August to launch the annual Season of Creation, celebrating God's role in nature. Originating in 1989 with Ecumenical Patriarch Demitrios, the observance expanded through church councils to run from 1 September to 4 October. Endorsed by Pope Francis in 2015, it now unites Christians globally in prayer and care for creation. The 2025 theme, "Making peace with creation," calls believers to restore harmony with the natural world. For more information, visit www.seasonofcreation.org.

All systems go for CWL Craighall Park at Regional Fete

CWL Craighall Park members braved very cold and blustery weather to turn up at St Dominic's Catholic School in Boksburg in the early hours of Saturday, 6 September to set up their stall at the CWL Regional Fete. Dozens of boxes containing enticing bric-a-brac items were unpacked and put on display at the Craighall Park stall, with brisk sales commencing the moment the fete officially opened. By the end of the day, which was themed 'Rainbow Fiesta', most of the items had been sold, with a significant amount of money raised for CWL charities. Well done to all who participated!

Kokstad

As models of faith in action, the Catholic Women's League, Kokstad Branch, this year is happy to share that we have grown in numbers to over 20 ladies in our League. We continue to engage in Spiritual activities within our parish so as to strengthen our faith, increase hope amongst community members and to build a unit of fellowship and strength, amongst our parishioners. We have made numerous donations to the St Theresa's Children's project through fundraising activities this year. In June we prayed the Novena to St Anthony and had a Soup drive for the homeless in our community. During October we started the 'Planting Hope' Campaign and planted trees at our Grotto with our Bishop Victor Thulani Mbuyisa. We will be closing our year with both our annual donation to the Seminary Fund and having a Christmas gathering planned for all our members in appreciation of their commitment, dedication and hard work throughout the year. We have to consider that time, for our ladies is a challenge and group participation might be challenging, but we as the CWL will work together in 2026 at our fundraising, not only for our parish but also for our community. We acknowledge that we are only strong when we achieve our goals together.





News from the Diocese



KIMBERLEY

Spoil-a-Priest

After all the hard work, it was time to wind down and also to spoil our Priest. The ladies showed their gratitude and appreciation to Fr. Orakwe for his unwavering support throughout the year. As a token of appreciation the ladies invited him to lunch and presented him with a gift.



Branch President presenting Fr. Orakwe with a token

Celebration of the Feast of the Assumption and Renewal of Commitments

All the branches in the Diocese celebrated this day at their respective parishes and this included their Recommitment & Renewals.

The CWL ladies of Our Lady of Fatima Shrine prayed their Novena from 7th to 15th August 2025 and made the renewal of their commitments on 13th September 2025, led by their Parish Priest, Rev. Fr M Koloi.

The theme was **NEW LIFE IN CHRIST** (Eph. 4:17-32) Members were advised to get rid of the "old" self. One's heart and mind must be made completely new. We should try to put on the "new" self which is created in God's likeness and reveals itself in an honest, upright and holy life. The Priest was gifted a token of appreciation.



CWL Ladies of Our Lady of Fatima Shrine with their Parish Priest, Rev Fr Molefe Koloi



JOYOUS CELEBRATIONS

Mrs Sylvia Keeleng Seleka from the Mahikeng Deanery, the oldest member in this CWL branch, celebrated her 95th birthday. Our members are seen here sharing this blessed and special occasion with her.



CHARITY EVENTS

Mahikeng

On the 3rd of September 2025, the Mahikeng branch visited and donated groceries to the Nuns at the Thapelong Convent.



On 14th September 2025, Altar cloths were donated by the Mafikeng branch to two parishes of Rev Fr Sekao namely Lebogang and St Benedict. Four Cassocks for the Altar Servers at St Benedict Parish were also donated.

St Charles Lwanga

The St Charles Lwanga CWL branch presented a blanket to Mrs Mahatlheng, the mother of the Parish Priest, as a gesture of goodwill.

Holy Trinity

The ladies assisted Rev. Fr. Reggie, the Parish Priest, by donating non-perishable items.

St Boniface

On the 6th July 2025 the branch visited the Bophelong Care Centre which houses the aged and frail. The CWL ladies served them bread and soup. The league also donated sanitary towels to Molehe Mampe Secure Care Centre, which is responsible for children who are in conflict with the law.



St Peter the Apostle

Enrolment and Awarding of Long Service Badges: On Sunday, 26 October 2025 the CWL of St Peter's Branch celebrated the enrolment of one lady, Ursula Mathe. Boitumelo Tire and Keneilwe Mothibi received their long service badges for 10 years and 25 years respectively.



Cancer Awareness

Monica who is a cancer survivor shared her brief journey with us and encouraged women to check themselves regularly.



News from the Diocese



Tree Planting

The tree planting was led by our Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Medupe Motshwari and supported by the whole congregation, including other branches in the Deanery, that came to support and celebrate with us. The planted tree was named the TREE OF HOPE.

Priest's Birthday

The branch celebrated the birthday of the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Medupe Motshwari on Sunday, 07 September 2025 at the Heights Restaurant. He was spoilt with gifts.

Priesthood Sunday

The League, together with parishioners prayed for Rev. Fr. Medupe Motshwari. He received a gift voucher and other useful commodities.



KLERKSDORP

St. Michael - Potchefstroom

SELF LOVE, SELF CARE

This year's celebration of National Women's Day took an interesting turn at St. Michael's. CWL ladies felt their cups were "running empty" so they arranged to have the day just to themselves, to rekindle their spirits, faith, sisterhood and love. They shared a meal together and they bought a secret gift. The event was preceded by reciting the Rosary at the church grotto.



Klerksdorp Diocese on Retreat

"Arise and eat because the journey might be too long" 1 Kings 19 vs 7-8. This was the theme of the well attended retreat that was held from the 25th to 27th July 2025 at Fourteen Streams Retreat Centre. The Retreat Master, Father Tshidiso Moleko (OMI), based his message on this scripture in preparation for the feast of the Assumption..



Our Lord King of Peace and St Peter Boikhutso Arise and Eat

REACHING OUT TO THE ELDERLY AND SICKLY.

It is never a case of "out of sight, out of mind" in Klerksdorp Diocese branches. It is for this reason that the branches reach out to the elderly and sickly in the form of visits. Members spend time, prayer and meals with them, to uplift their spirits. Members of Our Lord King of Peace visited Aunt Helen Beukes (84 years) on the 9th of September. They prayed and sung songs she loved. She renewed her commitment to the CWL and was in good spirits.



On a similar note, a gesture almost closely related was carried out at St Peter's branch in Boikhutso. The members (pictured below) are still taking very good care of their mentor, Mme Merriam Mathulwe whose mobility is limited due to old age. She is actively involved in recruiting new members for the league and is fully devoted to the League.



CHARITY EVENTS

Kreste Morekolodi (Bloemhof) and St Peter's (Christiana) celebrated the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary together at St Peter's parish. They made a generous donation of sanitary towels to women and offered an "envelope" to the parish priest, Fr Bernard to spoil himself.

Our Lady of Lourdes (Wolmarasstad) also spoilt their priest with an envelope after the Assumption celebrations.

St Paul (Jouberton) concluded their Novena and Assumption celebrations by donating "preloved" clothes and sanitary towels to those in need within the parish.

Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer held a fund-raising event in the form of an Annual Tea party. The funds raised are used to cater for the needs of the nuns in the Convents of the Diocese.





News from the Diocese



RECRUITMENT

The branches in Klerksdorp Diocese are going an extra mile in the recruitment of new CWL members. They have followed in the footsteps of the Diocesan Executive which has recently established a new Branch in Stilfontein. They left the branch, The Immaculate Heart of Mary, in the capable hands of Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer branch to nurture and guide. This is a duty they are carrying out with diligence and dedication, with the last visit on the 12th October 2025

St Peter's (Christiana): Inducted a new member Ms Rosey Gobonamang Lithoko on the 12 of October 2025.

St Peter's (Boikhutso): on Sunday the 23rd of August 2025 two new members were inducted when the other members renewed their commitment to the CWL.



New members of St. Peter (Boikhutso)

Heritage Day Celebrations

Celebration of National Heritage Day at St. Michael's was a very colourful affair. As usual CWL played a vital role in arrangements for the day in arranging the venue and preparing scrumptious traditional meals for the day. As St Michael's is a multi-national parish, everyone had the luxury of experiencing cuisine from all African Cultures like Zimbabwe, Congo, Angola, Portugal and Zambia.



DIOCESE OF KROONSTAD

Kroonstad



Members of St Barbara CWL donating clothing and food to St John Vianney Parish

Life is not always perfect,
But it's always what you make it.
Make it count, make it memorable,
and never let anyone steal your happiness.



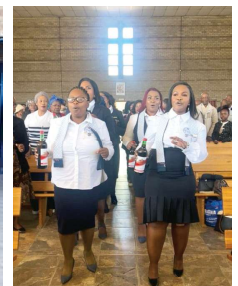
Brother Lazaro receives blessing from the CWL women



Our Lady of the Rosary, Thabong Welkom, spoils our priest, Rev Fr Thabo Mifi

Maokeng

The branch enrolled 3 new members. 9 Members celebrated 10 yrs in the league. All members renewed their vows.



The CWL ladies of St Dominic's and St Barbara renewed their vows at St Barbara and donated wine to the church

DIOCESE OF OUDTSHOORN

Bisdom - Oudtshoorn



Die naweek van 16 en 17 Augustus 2025 was die KVB se 50ste bestaansjaar herdenking in die Bisdom Oudtshoorn . Die verskeie takke in die Bisdom het dit bygewoon . Die vieringe het Saterdagoggend 16 Augustus 2025 begin met 'n besinnings dag gelei deur ons Kapelaan Vader Leon Mostert , by die Oratorium.

Tydens die sessie is daar ook 'n boom geplant. Die sessie is afgesluit met Benediksie en 'n ligte maaltyd.





News from the Diocese



Die aand is formeel fees gevier en gekuier met langdiens erkennings aan 5 lede met 50 jaar volgehoute toegewyde diens in die KVB.



Nasionale Presidente en lede van die Nasionale Raad



'Gedans en gesing'

Sondag 17 Augustus 2025 is Heilige Mis in die St Saviour Katedraal met ons Biskop Noël Rucastle gevier. Tydens die Heilige Mis is een lid opgeneem in die KVB. Daarna het al die dames in die KVB hul beloftes hernu en ons het dit met verversings in die saal gevier. Ons was vereer met die teenwoordigheid van ons Nasionale Presidente en lede van die Nasionale Raad. Dit was voorwaar 'n geseënde naweek in die Bisdom van Oudtshoorn.



Op 25 Oktober 2025 het ons die jaar afgesluit met ons Algemene Jaar Vergadering wat goed deur ons lede bygewoon was. Ons strewende Liefdadigheid, Werk en Lojaliteit.

PORT ELIZABETH

St. Martin De Porres

On 25 June 2025 an interdominational Service was hosted by St Martin de Porres in Gelvandale.

The service was led by Pastor Renz from the Evangelical Lutheran Church. After the service the ladies of St Martin de Porres served warm, tasty soup to all present, including our CWL Diocesan President Esther.



On 11 September 2025, the ladies of the CWL distributed gifts to the little people of Uviwe Child and Youth Services, Gelvandale Educare. As a token of appreciation, the children sang us a beautiful song. In true CWL spirit the ladies encored with 'Die Here het my mooi gemaak!'

Church of Resurrection

We renewed our commitment on 17 August. In the past few months we : visited Mrs Pikoli who is sickly and prayed the Rosary with her; CWL tiled the Grotto and it was blessed on 12th October by

Father Eldridge; we have been selling tickets for the Gatsby Gala to raise funds for the Silver Jubilee of Fr. Eldridge and we donated sanitary towels for Mandela Day at Isaac Booi School. We also hosted the Deanery Exam and catered for the youth



Mater Dei

MUSIC TRIVA EVENING

On Saturday, 28 June 2025, our Music Trivia Night was a lively joyful gathering that brought parishioners together in friendly competition. All proceeds were donated to the Akhanani Good Shepherd Mission. It was a beautiful example of how fun and fellowship can be harnessed for meaningful outreach.

Ladies' Social & Knitting for Charity

On 16 August 2025, we hosted a Ladies' Social, welcoming parish and community women for tea, treats, and knitting squares for blankets for those in need - combining fellowship, creativity and CWL values of Charity, Work and Loyalty while inviting newcomers to join.



Annual Caravan for Priests and Nuns

Later in August CWL Mater Dei catered for the annual diocesan caravan for priests, religious sisters and brothers. A delicious meal was served and the day was filled with laughter, gratitude and heartfelt conversations.

Induction & Recommitment

On Sunday, 17 August 2025, on the Feast of the Assumption we welcomed Madeleine Potgieter as a new member of CWL Mater Dei. The induction ceremony was followed by a recommitment from existing members.



Jubilee Mass for Sodalties

On Saturday 20th September 2025, our CWL ladies assisted during the Jubilee Mass for sodalties, held in celebration of Pope Francis's 2025 Jubilee Year theme: "Pilgrims of Hope."

This sacred gathering emphasized that hope is not passive - it is a call to action.

Market Day Pancake Stall

With cheerful hearts and busy hands, our CWL ladies hosted a pancake stall at the Annual Market Day. This was a reflection of our collaboration with the parish and wider community.

On this road called life

You have to take the good with the bad,
Smile with the sad, love what you got, and
Remember what you had. Always forgive,
But never forget, learn from your mistakes,
But never regret. People change. Things go
Wrong. But just remember, the ride goes on.



News from the Diocese



Corpus Christi

1st Holy Communion and Feast of Corpus Christ

On 22 June 2025 our parish was privileged to celebrate First Holy Communion on the Feast Day of our parish, Corpus Christ. After mass the CWL ladies served tea and refreshments to family and friends.

International Food Festival

St Augustine's Parish hosted the International Food Festival on 27 June. Our CWL ladies' ran a busy pancake stall. The festival was well attended by most parishes within the Diocese.



Soup and sherry evening on 25 July 2025

Delicious soup and "a sherry" was served on the evening. It was a wonderful time of parishioners coming together for good soup and good company.

Annual Harvest Market

A successful fundraiser, the annual Harvest Market, was held by the league on August 31, 2025. With a welcoming tea garden, parishioners were also encouraged to donate fresh produce and homemade treats. Various food items like curry-bunnies, boerewors rolls, etc. were for sale. The event received overwhelming support and the proceeds were donated to the parish.



Enrollment of a new member on 7 September 2025

We were blessed with a new member, Leta Dos Santos.

CONFIRMATION on 21 September 2025

Our church was blessed to have 5 confirmation candidates this year. Once again the CWL generously served tea and provided refreshments for all present!

St. Augustines

The Parish celebrated the Feast of St Augustine on the 24th of August.

CWL were ready to serve members of the Parish.



International Food Fair was very well attended



Renewal of CWL Commitment

Sacred Heart

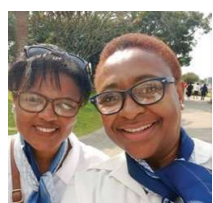
On the 5th August three new ladies were enrolled. Rita and Alvernia received their 10 year badges.

Our members prayed the CWL Novena during August and our CWL retreat was held on the 23rd August with the annual Renewal of Commitment taking place on the 24th August.

Our annual dance was enjoyed on the 29th August and it was a huge success. On Sunday the 7th September we will be helping with eats after the Confirmation service.

Helping with Kindness

On 11 September our league assisted a local school by serving sandwiches and juice to the learners.



JUBILEE MASS of Sodalties on 20 September 2025

The Jubilee Mass took place on 20 September 2025 at Sacred Heart in Kabega Park. Our members generously donated old clothing and non-perishable items for our lone branches.

Always Remember

Some days are better, some days are worse,
look for the blessing instead of the curse.
Be positive, stay strong and get enough rest.
You can't do it all, but you can do your best.



News from the Diocese



San Francesco Parish

The annual Recommissioning Mass was held on the 17th August. Our Branch received a message of sincere thanks from Esther for the blankets donated to the Old Age Home. Our generosity continues to make a difference.

Nora's daughter-in-law supports a small Pre-School in Motherwell called Sinethemba. She kindly delivered knitted jerseys and beanies to the children there. Hopefully, we can continue to send more goodies in the future.

Our Parish Priest will be celebrating his birthday this month so the CWL ladies have decided to take him out for breakfast and gave him a gift of money so that he can spoil himself. Next month we will be hosting a High Tea for our past members. It was mentioned in the local newspaper that an elderly couple have resorted to selling banana bread in order to help fund the wife's medical treatment. It was agreed that we provide them with a Spar voucher to assist with the purchase of what they need.

St. Bernadette's

We continue to provide refreshments at funerals and the proceeds from this are used to support our charities. Knitted goods were sent to the Children's Feeding Trust and the Sisters of Mercy in Addo.

Eight of our members were invited to a Spring Tea hosted by Walmer Methodist Church and a wonderful morning of fellowship was enjoyed by all.

On 18 October we hosted a tea in our hall to celebrate Catholic Womanhood. We were delighted to host ladies from St Bernadette's and other parishes in our city and were honored to welcome Lindy Opperman, the national secretary of the CWL, as our guest speaker.

Our 40 Hours Devotion took place on the last weekend of October. It is a highlight on our parish calendar, and we look forward to this offering of prayers of worship and thanksgiving for our abundant blessings.



A Morning Tea to Celebrate Catholic Womanhood

St. Kevin's

The CWL Ladies attended the Jubilee Mass which the Bishop celebrated, at Sacred Heart.



St. Patrick's

On the 26th of July we had our annual Bottomless Soup and Sherry Evening, where we offered 10 different pots of soup. All the guests enjoyed the soup and left that evening with full tummies.



On the 27th of September, we planted a tree and had a plaque made in celebration of our CWL 80th celebration



East London Regional Report

Our CWL members have been very busy these last few months, distributing parcels to needy children and families.

We were also preparing for the Sodality Jubilee Mass in August. This was an auspicious occasion for our CWL ladies who helped with the organisation. We had a very successful recommitment day at which Fr Francis officiated. All the branches attended. He explained the meaning of our motto and how it coincides with our spiritual being and the Bible.

I also had the privilege of attending enrolments at two of our parishes, two members at Immaculate Conception and three members at St. Patrick's.

As part of our Social Welfare Programme we hosted a very successful Spring Tea. We are grateful for the wonderful support.

East London Regional News

Immaculate Conception:

Re-Commitment Day.

New members were:

Marie Kock and Mildred Arends.

Recommitment Day and three new ladies were

inducted: Rita Silvaggi, Agatha Ngobese, Palesa Cakwebe



The Spring Tea organised by the Regional committee was a great success. All branches were involved and this included our Chaplain Fr. Thomas Wao



St Francis Xavier /St Martin De Porres

The tea served to grandparents was a great success.



St. Mary's - Grahamstown

We enrolled a new member Chanell Jordaan seen here with our spiritual director Blaine Jacobs. We have 25 members whom we value highly.

The CWL Novena was prayed in our church and was also attended by members of the congregation. Besides having a Rosary procession on the feast of The Assumption we also renewed our commitment to CWL.



Adult nappies and bedding were donated to the Mckaizer's old age home in our community. We also spoilt them with treats and spent quality time with them (which they greatly appreciated) as we listened to their stories and jokes.



News from the Diocese



We bid farewell to our parish priest Fr. Khanyisani Shabalala, who was assigned to a new mission. We wish him well for his future.



PRETORIA

Pretoria

Below is a farewell message from Sis Nkuli Shinga, President of the CWL Diocese of Pretoria, who gracefully bows out of office with resounding praise from diocesan members and a remarkable record of success.

To my dear Sisters in Charity, Work and Loyalty: **FAITH IN ACTION - SERVING WITH LOVE**

It is with deep gratitude and a full heart that I present a brief reflection as I stand at the close of my three-year term at the helm of the Catholic Women's League in the Archdiocese of Pretoria. These past years have been a time of growth, challenges, learning, and above all, a shared journey of faith and service.

As I step down, I do so with full confidence in the incoming leadership. I urge all members to rally behind the new President and her deputy, offering them the same loyalty and cooperation you extended to me. And to every 'CWL woman of quality' - thank you for walking this journey with me.



Outgoing President of the CWL Diocese of Pretoria, Sis Nkuli Shinga, touched by the gifts presented to her by the DC as farewell tokens of appreciation for her excellent leadership



Diocesan Council members bid farewell to the President and welcome incoming leadership

CWL Diocesan AGM & Jubilee Celebration

On 26 July, the CWL Archdiocese of Pretoria celebrated its Jubilee Year 2025 and held its 75th Annual General Meeting at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Midrand. The day began with the Rosary and Holy Mass led by Archbishop Dabula Mpako, followed by a Jubilee procession, tree planting, reflection, and the election of new diocesan leadership. Former Diocesan Deputy President, Sis Lemao Modise, of the Lyttelton branch, accepted the position of President.



Pretoria Diocese members give a resounding "YES" to the incoming



President, Sis Lemao Modise, and Deputy President, Sis Itumeleng Ganyane

Pilgrims of Hope

Women of Walking in Faith and Planting Hope. **Left:** Diocese Members taking part in the Jubilee Procession reciting the Litany of Thanksgiving, **Right:** Archbishop Dabula Mpako, Fr Shibu Augustine and Fr Thabiso Ledwaba plant the Tree of Hope.



New Diocesan Branch



The only two members of the newly launched Mamelodi branch of St Raphael Parish, Sis Mmatshela Joy Tloubatla and Sis Kabelo Tologu, with Fr Tshepang Dithipe, who presided over the inauguration Mass on 31 August 2025



Pretoria DC and CWL members from across the diocese branches, who came to support the new kids on the block

Diocesan Visit to Sizanani Children's Home

The last group of three branches, being Montana, Pretoria North and Soshanguve, visited the Sizanani Children's Home. The Sizanani Home, which supports 51 children with both physical and mental challenges, is the CWL Archdiocese's primary charity beneficiary from 2024. The visit starts with Holy Mass and the day is dedicated to spending time with the children and staff and donating essentials required for the daily care of the children in the Home.



Members of Pretoria Diocese from the Montana, Pretoria North, Hammanskraal and Soshanguve branches visit Sizanani Children's Home bearing gifts of much-needed daily essentials for the Home

Archdiocese Jubilee Celebrations

On 14 September, members of the CWL Pretoria Diocese were tasked with preparing food for all the Clergy and the Religious participating in the 2025 Jubilee Celebration of the Archdiocese, which was presided over by Archbishop Dabula Mpako and Auxiliary Archbishop Masilo Selemela. Cheerfully, willingly and loyally they obliged, giving stellar service.





News from the Diocese



Capital Park Branch - St. Columba Parish WOMEN'S DAY - St Columba Hosts Inspiring High Tea

On 9 August 2025, St. Columba CWL hosted a Women's Day High Tea celebrating empowerment, faith, and service. Organised by dedicated members, the event honoured women uplifting their parishes through prayer and action. Speakers addressed mental health, spirituality, and financial wellness, inspiring guests amid laughter, reflection, and sweet treats - a joyful testament to Catholic womanhood and community spirit.



Fr Clement Senekane is with Fatuma Tou, Justina Estavo, Mamsie Macha-Kubheka, Dineo Crisp, Akhona Mbande, and Michelle Makaza, who were the hosts and organisers of the brilliant St Columba CWL Women's Day High Tea, held on 9 August 2025



*"She is clothed with strength and dignity,
and she laughs without fear of the future."
- Proverbs 31:25*

Renewal of Vows



Fr Mkhwanazi with joyful members of the Capital Park branch after the ceremony to renew their vows and welcome three new members

Branch President Sis Dineo Crisp awards the ten-year service badge to Sis Mamsie Macha-Kubheka during the Assumption Feast Mass presided over by Father Africa Mkhwanazi at St Columba, Capital Park. The new members are Akhona, Fatuma and Michell



Eersterust Branch - St. Joseph's Parish



Agatha Kelly, Meloniece Moses, and Leezanne Seroot, the three sisters inducted into the CWL Eersterust



Receiving long service recognition is Lettie January, Bridget Bagley, Manei Letebe-Hartel, Anita Noah, and Laura Botha, with branch President, Veronica Lebona-Malan and Parish Priest, Rev Fr F Swartbooi standing behind them

On the glorious Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady - in this sacred moment, we welcome new members into our League - women who have heard the call to serve and now take up the cross to walk faithfully in the footsteps of Our Mother.

This celebration is not only a welcome to new members, but also a time for all existing members to recommit themselves to the League's enduring motto of *Charity, Work, and Loyalty*.

Celebrating Historic Sophiatown

On the evening of August 1st, the Eersterust branch was transported back in time, reliving the spirit and energy of historic Sophiatown. The branch held a fundraising event themed "Sophiatown" as a powerful tribute to a place where creativity once danced in the streets and the soul of a nation found expression.

The objective of the Sophiatown soiree was to raise funds for the year-end, which would be allocated to the branch's various charity beneficiaries, including two Old Age Homes and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.



A Night to Remember: Eersterust branch members revelling at the joyful Sophiatown fundraiser. Left: Delphine Malgas, Agatha Kelly, Leezanne Seroot, and Lorinda Mpofu



Dressed to the Nines: A couple supporting our fundraising efforts, Deon and Nonoh were crowned the Best Dressed Couple



Anita Noah, Gladys Ameer, Pearly Rogers, Laura Botha, and Manei Letebele-Hartel



News from the Diocese



St. Camillus Parish - Hammanskraal INTERDENOMINATIONAL PRAYER FOR MATRICULANTS

On 16 October, CWL members collaborated with other church denominations in prayer during the matriculant pledge, at Moditela High School, Lephengville. The religious prayer service and motivational talks were to prepare and remind Matric students of the value of their educational journey and of the support we have for them.



Sizani visit

Members of the CWL St Camillus joined together with other women of quality to visit Sizani Children's Home on 13 September 2025. The visit was successful, and the children enjoyed the engagement and time spent with our ladies.



Charity Outreach

On 6 September 2025, the St Camillus CWL ladies visited Odirile Home, caring for children and adults with disabilities, in Unit 7, Temba, Hammanskraal. We donated children's and adult clothes, food parcels, vegetables and toiletries.

The visit was made extra special as the Home was also celebrating its 23rd anniversary of helping and supporting local families and orphaned children with disabilities. Our heartfelt gratitude to Phindile Khumalo and the staff at Odirile Orphanage for their care and dedication.



Members of the Lynnwood branch gather to celebrate the renewal of vows and welcome a new member

St. John Fischer Parish - Lynnwood

The Lynnwood CWL branch recently renewed their vows at St John Fischer Church on 17 August, welcoming new member Junica Maseko. The joyful Mass featured flowers in Our Lady's blue and white by Gill Enslin.

Maria Regina Parish - Lyttleton

JOYOUS CELEBRATIONS: CWL Lyttelton celebrated the Maria Regina Cultural Day parish fundraiser. As part of the initiative, the ladies cooked African cultural dishes. They prepared mogodu, Sesotho chicken, moroho, samp, chakalaka ting and dumpling.



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish - Midrand

Renewal of vows and new member induction

Members of the Midrand branch were proud to enrol two members, Sis Sarah and Sis Maki into their branch, and the branch also had the opportunity to renew their commitment to the CWL.

Midrand hosted the CWL Diocesan Jubilee Year Celebration and 75th Elective AGM which was a huge success. A special thanks to all sisters who participated to make it possible.



Church of the Presentation - Montana

INDUCTION – Montana Welcomes Six New Members



New Energy: Parish Priest Fr. Patrick Rakeketsi is flanked by the newly enrolled members of the Montana branch



News from the Diocese



The Montana branch was blessed to enroll 6 new members, the highest we have ever inducted in our eight years of existence. One member was absent due to family commitments and was enrolled the following Sunday. These young women are expected to inject fresh, vibrant energy and innovative ideas to take our sodality to greater heights. May the Almighty God bless them.



In a powerful display of commitment that transcends titles, the outgoing branch President, Sis Mokgadi Wessie-Monaisa, gracefully passed the torch of leadership with a heartfelt pledge of her full and unwavering support. Sis Mokgadi also made a heartfelt call to action, urging everyone to unite behind the new leadership by continuing to uplift the parish and serve the community in the spirit of faith and fellowship. This commitment beautifully underscores the CWL's motto of Charity, Loyalty and Work, enduring spirit of sisterhood, where leadership roles may change, but the collective dedication to service and support remains the constant heartbeat of the league.

TRIBUTE — Branch Honours Sis Mokgadi Wessie-Monaisa



Right: Outgoing Montana branch President, Sis Mokgadi Wessie-Monaisa welcomes the incoming President, Sis Rebhone Molefe

In a heartfelt tribute filled with gratitude and grace, messages of appreciation reflected on the impact of her leadership. Her sterling job was noted not just for the successful initiatives launched, but for the compassionate and collaborative spirit with which she led.



Graceful: The vacating Montana branch President, Sis Mokgadi Wessie-Monaisa, is honoured for her dedicated service in leadership..

OLIFANTSFONTEIN BRANCH

HOLY TRINITY PARISH

COMBINED RETREAT OLIFANTSFONTEIN & LYTTTELTON

On the 16th of August 2025, we had a combined retreat with the CWL sisters from Lyttelton. Above are members of Holy Trinity, Olifantsfontein Branch, and Lyttelton, Maria Regina Parish, enjoying time together after a fulfilling retreat day.



INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBER AND RENEWAL OF VOWS

On the 17 of August 2025, we inducted one member, Miriam Phiri, as a full member, and we renewed our vows.





News from the Diocese



ELECTION OF NEW BRANCH LEADERSHIP

On the 04 of October 2025 members of CWL had a pre-election motivation and retreat session with the Parish Priest Fr Benoit. On the 05 of October 2025 the new branch Executive were inducted and received the blessing from our parish Priest.

Fr Benoit blesses and presents the new branch executive to the parishioners

PRETORIA CITY BRANCH - CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH ST ALPHONSO ORPHANAGE VISIT

The Cathedral's CWL sisters - Back Row: Lydienne, Marithee, Smangele, Christinah, Mothibi, Shibu, Onica, Pinky and Nonhlanhla. Front Row: Centre Manager Sister Puleng Mhloimi, Sis Nomfundo Singozo and the Home's staff members.

RENEWAL OF VOWS



Members of the Cathedral celebrate the renewal of vows

CHARITY OUTREACH

On Mother's Day, 09 August 2025, members of the Cathedral CWL visited the Orphanage and home for vulnerable children that is run by The Sisters of Saint John the Baptist in Bronkhorstspuit. Our members had pre-loved clothes as well as perishable and non-perishable food to donate to the Home.



PRETORIA NORTH BRANCH ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

In the quest to fulfill God's desires, the CWL branch of St John the Baptist Parish continues with various corporal works of mercy. Mandela Day was celebrated with the elderly at Ten Morgan in Winterveldt. Mass was celebrated and lunch was enjoyed with the elderly people at the Centre. The branch continues to raise funds every month for different projects. We take care of the environment. The trees of Hope that we planted are coming up nicely! The new Branch Executive is ready!



I am the church, you are the church, we are the church!



News from the Diocese



SOSHANGUVE BRANCH - ST ANTHONY PARISH SUPPORTING THE CHURCH

On the 6th of July, the CWL provided snacks for our Altar Servers as they prepared for their annual camp, from 7th to 11th July 2025. The young people truly appreciated receiving the treats.



CHARITY

The spirit of Charity, Work and Loyalty runs in our blood. On 20 July 2025, CWL Shoshanguve branch visited the Boitumelo Orphanage and donated what we could put together as members. We felt so blessed to spend some quality time with the children housed at the Home, as we cooked and shared a meal with them as one family. We are humbled by the love and joy they shared with us. We are also grateful to have selfless members who are willing to sacrifice the little they have to help those who are less privileged and do it all with love.



RENEWAL OF VOWS

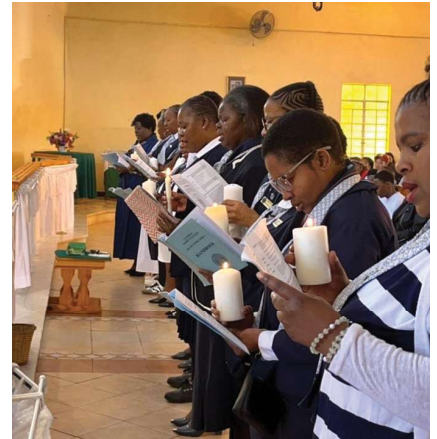
On the 24th of August 2025, a total of 13 members of the St Anthony Parish, Soshanguve, renewed their commitment as CWL members.

Fr Patrick Rakeketsi presiding over Mass. What a beautiful celebration.

We were also celebrating Fr Severino's 54 years of pastoral service.

We will remember his love and gentleness as bid him farewell on his return to Italy.

Fr Rakeketsi reminded us that "ga a fela, o feditse".



Spreading the Light of Hope



President, Sis Yvonne Magagula, lights up candles for members during the renewal of vows ceremony



FR PHALA'S FAREWELL



Always Remember Us: Members of the Soshanguve branch bid farewell to Parish Priest Fr Phala, who is donned in his beautiful new CWL-branded Chasuble and Stole set

What a blessed Sunday it was on 31 August 2025 as we celebrated the last mass with our Parish Priest, Fr TP Phala. As a parting gift, the CWL presented him with a beautiful Chasuble bearing the image of Mary, Queen Assumed into Heaven and a Stole with the CWL logo. This thank-you gift was for his tireless support and guidance in establishing the CWL in the parish and elsewhere.



News from the Diocese



SILVERTON BRANCH - ST AUGUSTINE PARISH INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWAL OF VOWS



On 17th August, St Augustine Church was privileged to induct 4 new members, Priscilla Simelane, Tebogo Makena, Lorato Motsatsi and Poppy Molebatsi (Left). Other CWL members also renewed their commitment to the CWL. (Right). Parish Priest Fr Anthony Mkhari presided over the Mass, celebrating the service of the CWL through Charity, Work and Loyalty.

WATERKLOOF BRANCH - ST PIUS X PARISH RENEWAL OF VOWS



The Pledge: The Waterkloof branch members renewed their commitment to serve as members of the Catholic Women's League, at the 7h40 Mass held on 17 August 2025 and pledged to continue to reach out with charitable deeds to those members of our community who are in need and marginalised.

ZWAVELPOORT BRANCH - CHURCH OF THE BEATITUDES ANNUAL FUN RUN/WALK FUNDRAISER



Together We Can: Members of the Zwavelpoort branch band together to make their "fun day" fundraiser a success. They were joined above by their volunteer DJ, who kept the programme enjoyable

Zwavelpoort, Church of the Beatitudes CWL held their annual Fun Run/Walk on the 30th of August to raise funds for the two Children's Homes, which are the SOS Children's Home in Mamelodi and Sizanani Orphanage in Bronkhorstpruit.

The day was filled with fun for the young and old alike. A volunteer DJ was arranged and generously kept the day's activities lively. The CWL successfully raised R15 000.00 that will go towards supporting these worthy causes.



At the CWL National meeting on 31 October we were confronted by the harsh reality of GENDER BASED VIOLENCE, including reports on suicides and the tragic death of a local CWL member.

The CWL National Committee are launching a prayer crusade against GBV, with a prayer composed by Fr Jerry Browne.

Members are urged to pray daily from 25th November to 31 December 2025, joining the 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM against GBV.

Please spread the prayer to family and friends to create a united, powerful voice against Gender Based Violence.



Catholic Women's League

Prayer for an End to Violence Against Women, Children, and All Vulnerable People

Loving God, Creator of all life, you made each person in your image and likeness.

We bring before you the pain of women, children, and all who suffer from violence and abuse.

Pour out your healing Spirit upon hearts wounded by fear, pain, and betrayal. Touch the deep places of past trauma, restoring hope where trust has been broken.

Heal also the hidden hurt within those who cause harm, that they may be freed from anger and transformed by your mercy.

Strengthen our resolve to stand with the vulnerable, to speak where silence reigns, to bring an end to all violence, and to build a world where love and justice prevail.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen.





Obituaries

"May the Holy Angels lead you into paradise"



Mankiki Damane - Bloemfontein

Mrs. Mankiki Damane was an active and loyal member of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Bloemfontein. She served in the league for 9 years.



Gugu Mthombeni - Durban

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of our beloved sister in Christ, Mrs. Gugu Mthombeni, a devoted and faithful servant of the Catholic Women's League, St. Clement Parish. She was a CWL member for 44 years.



Nonqaba Halam - Bloemfontein

Mrs Nonqaba Halam was an active, hard working member of St Anthony at Koffiefontein. A dedicated member that served from 2019 to 2025



Theresa Dlamini - Durban

29 SEPTEMBER 1949 - 2 SEPTEMBER 2025
She met her untimely death on the 2nd of September 2025. She had been a member of CWL for 35years and she served on the CWL Executive committee. She was also a spiritual director for Maria and Khwezi sodality for many years. She was a phenomenal Catechist.



Joan Croucher - Cape Town

Sadly who passed away on 12 July 2025. A valued member of the Rondebosch branch of the CWL. She was a gentle, positive presence, leading the Rosary with quiet devotion and always bringing food for the Carmel sisters. Generous and full of spirit, she welcomed us into her home and celebrated every victory with joy. Though missed, she leaves a legacy of love, faith, and courage.



Bongekile Dlamini - Durban

She established CWL in Our Lady of Lourdes-KwaMashu Parish. As an active member she cheerfully participated in the activities of the League. She was prayerful and faithful, putting God first. She was ill for a long period yet she never stop visiting houses of God. We will sadly miss her. May her soul rest in peace.



Lynne Johnson - Cape Town

12 July 1962 - 2 September 2025
Plumstead CWL mourns the loss of Lynne Johnson. Lynne joined the CWL in 2012 and served faithfully as vice-president and treasurer. Deeply committed to the League's motto of Charity, Work, and Loyalty, she brought faith, energy, and joy to all we did. Her kindness, humour, and dedication will be dearly missed.



Pauline Leclezio - Durban

1943 - 2025
Pauline's journey of 34 years as a CWL member started in 1991. Pauline was dearly loved wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and a friend. She was a woman of strength, honest, resilient, faithful, caring, practical, unassuming and of deep faith, who lived her life to the full with her feet firmly planted on the ground. She also served in her Parish in many ministries and showed her care to the wider community.



Cecile Lis - Cape Town

CWL Parow mourns the passing of one of their members, Cecile Lis. She joined the league in 2012. She recently took ill and could not attend meetings nor participate in CWL projects. She passed away peacefully on 20 September 2025. R.I.P. dearest Cecile. May her dear soul rest in peace.



Nonhlanhla Mngadi - Durban

07/06/1977 - 21/07/2025
Nonhlanhla joined the CWL in 2023.



Rosemary Ryan - Cape Town

19 December 1933 - 20 July 2025
Joan Rosemary Ryan, beloved mother, sister, and friend, passed away peacefully on 20 July 2025 at the age of 91. A devoted member of the Catholic Women's League, Joan lived a life of compassion, service, and faith. Whether making soup for the needy, baking for parish events, or sharing joy over tea, she gave selflessly and with love. Joan's legacy of kindness and devotion will long be remembered by her five daughters, her family, and her CWL friends. May she rest in eternal peace.





Obituaries

"May the Holy Angels lead you into paradise"



Emily Ngenzeni Mthethwa - Durban

21/11/1949 - 18/07/2025
Emily joined the CWL in 2001.



Nomusa Shangase - Durban

Nomusa Shangase passed away on 4 November 2024. Sadly missed by her CWL family.



Rachel Monnashela - Kimberley

A dedicated member of the Catholic Women's League, from the Mokgareng Holy Family Branch, in the Taung Deanery. She was a member of the League from 1986 until her death on 11th September 2025. May her dear soul rest in eternal peace.



Gladys Dlamini - Marianhill

Sister Gladys was a faithful CWL member who sadly passed away on 17 June 2025. May her soul rest in peace and may the perpetual light shine upon her.



Jabulile Ngubane - Marianhill

Sister Jabu passed away on 31 July 2025, a few months after she was inducted as a member of the branch in May 2025. May her soul rest in peace and may the perpetual light shine upon her.



Ntokozo Musterpher - Marianhill

One of the longest serving members of the League in the Diocese, Sister Ntokozo sadly passed away on 16 August 2025. She had previously served on the Diocesan EXCO Committee as the Additional Member. May her soul rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon her.



Magrieta Elizabeth Van Wyk - Keimoes

Magrieta Elizabeth Van Wyk 84yrs died on 13 September 2025.



Sr Kaaitjie van Rensburgh - Keimoes

Sr Kaaitjie van Rensburgh died on 04 April 2025.



Ena Reynolds - Keimoes

Ena Reynolds (middle) died at 92yrs old on 12 June 2025.



Sr. Christien Eiman - Keimoes

Sr. Christien Eiman (right) died on 23 January 2025



Sr. Tiela - Keimoes

Sr. Tiela from Okiep died on 23 August 2025.



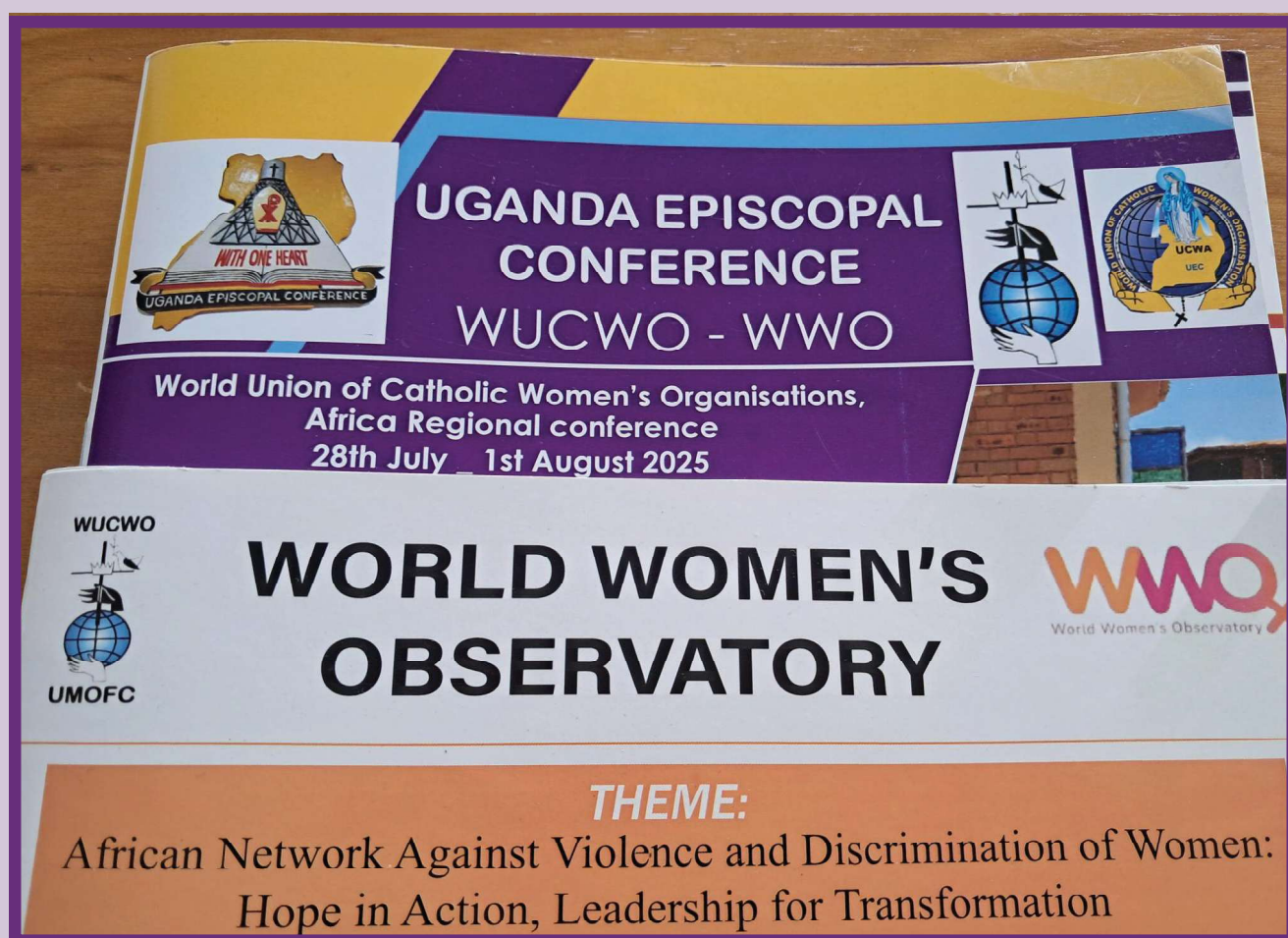
Judge Tlhapi - Pretoria

Judge Vuyelwa Vivienne TLHAPI joined the CWL Cathedral Branch as a member in 2014. Her membership was one of consistent and selfless service to the Lord. She received her ten-year badge of service and a CWL Honorary Lifetime membership in 2024. She was called home on 21 August 2025. She will be forever missed by her Cathedral Branch. May her departed soul rest in perpetual peace until we meet again.



Martha Middleton - Pretoria

In loving memory of Silverton member, Martha Middleton, who passed away on 2nd September 2025 at the age of 87. May God's love continue to surround her family and shine a light during their sorrows.



UGANDA EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE WUCWO - WWO

I would like to share with you that I was privileged to represent the CWL at the WUCWO Conference in Uganda, themed "Women, Custodians of Mother Earth." in July.

I then became fully aware of the work that WUCWO does all over the world and what a privilege it is for CWL and St Anne's to be the only 2 organisations in South Africa that belong to WUCWO.

Laudato Si' challenges us to rethink our relationship with nature so that we care for creation as a gift from God. Let us continue our "Plant a Tree" initiative - by the way, a tree makes a meaningful Christmas gift!

In September I attended the World Women's

Observatory workshop in Kenya. The feedback at this conference was amazing.

The theme "Women. United in mission, transforming lives", resonated very strongly with all present. There is admirable work being done in African countries to uplift women to become more than they ever dreamed was possible.

We were exposed to truthful, convincing and experienced speakers reporting on their charitable, reforming work among African women. We can pray, encourage and support them as they strive to accomplish their goals.

Sheila Thyse



We have taken you on a journey and now we observe the quiet stable where a baby is born - not in splendour or comfort, but in simplicity and love. Mary and Joseph gaze upon the Child with awe and gratitude, their faces radiant with joy that no hardship could dim. This holy moment reminds us that true happiness is not found in wealth or ease, but in the presence of God among us.